AMENDMENTS TO CLAIMS

1. (Currently Amended) A rolling bearing comprising an inner ring and an outer ring made of a high-carbon chrome bearing steel, a carburized steel or a carbon steel for mechanical structures, and a plurality of rolling elements mounted between said inner ring and said outer ring, wherein at least one of said inner ring and said outer ring is subject to to the surface layer of at least one of said inner ring and said outer ring, a compressive stress of not less than 200 MPa is imparted by heat treatment including carbonitriding and induction hardening a heat treatment comprising, in order, carbonitriding, oil quenching and induction hardening such that a surface layer of said at least one of said inner ring and said outer ring has a compressive strength of not less than 200 MPa, and a tempering hardness at 500°C of not less than Hv 550.

2. (Cancelled).

- 3. (Currently amended) A rolling bearing as claimed in claim 1 wherein among said inner and outer rings, one that has been subjected to said heat treatment said at least one of said inner ring and said outer ring has a prior austenite grain diameter of not less than Gc 10 in the surface layer thereof.
- 4. (Currently Amended) A rolling bearing as claimed in claim 1 wherein said heat treatment includes high-temperature-tempering between the carbonitriding and the induction hardening.
- 5. (Currently amended) A rolling bearing as claimed in claim 1 wherein said rolling elements are rollers and are arranged in a full complement arrangement.
- 6. (Previously Presented) A rolling bearing as claimed in claim 1 mounted in a rocker arm of an automobile.

- 7. (Currently Amended) A rolling bearing as claimed in claim 2-4 wherein among said inner and outer rings, one that has been subjected to said heat treatmentsaid at least one of said inner ring and said outer ring has a prior austenite grain diameter of not less than Gc 10 in the surface layer thereof.
- 8. (Currently Amended) A rolling bearing as claimed in claim 2-4 wherein said heat treatment includes high-temperature-tempering between the carbonitriding and the induction hardening.
- 9. (Currently Amended) A rolling bearing as claimed in claim 3 wherein said heat treatment includes high-temperature-tempering between the carbonitriding and the induction hardening.
- 10. (Currently Amended) A rolling bearing as claimed in claim 2-6 wherein said rolling elements are rollers and are arranged in a full compliment complement arrangement.
- 11. (Currently Amended) A rolling bearing as claimed in claim 3 wherein said rolling elements are rollers and are arranged in a full complement arrangement.
- 12. (Currently Amended) A rolling bearing as claimed in claim 4 wherein said rolling elements are rollers and are arranged in a full complement arrangement.

13. (Cancelled).

- 14. (Previously Presented) A rolling bearing as claimed in claim 3 mounted in a rocker arm of an automobile.
 - 15. (Previously Presented) A rolling bearing as claimed in claim 4 mounted in a rocker

arm of an automobile.

16. (Previously Presented) A rolling bearing as claimed in claim 5 mounted in a rocker arm of an automobile.